

IV. PROGRESS IN MALESIAN BOTANY

(addition to pages 3555-3559)

*Institutes are abbreviated according to the
Index Herbariorum list*

Acanthaceae. At C, Dr. Bertel H a n s e n took an interest in the family, and began by going through the many papers by C.E.B. Bremekamp.

Annonaceae. Mr. Paul K e s s l e r, Botanik, Universität, Box 3049, Kaiserslautern, W. Germany, has undertaken work on Orophea.

Mr. Steven R o g s t a d, a pupil of Dr. P.S. Ashton (A), undertook a field study of Polyalthia cauliflora, glauca, hypoleuca, and sumatrana in

Pasoh, Malaya, during 1981, to find out distinctions in this complex group, and ecological correlations.

At Utrecht a group will work on Annonaceae also, taxonomically and anatomically.

Apocynaceae. Dr. F. M a r k g r a f, Zürich, will soon finish his revision of the genus Rauwolfia for Flora Malesiana.

At WAG, Dr. A. J. M. L e e u w e n b e r g, whose main region is Africa, takes some interest in the Malesian members. He plans to sink Ervatamia into Tabernaemontana. At present he is monographing Voacanga for the two regions. Mr. N. G. B i s s e t in London looks at chemical aspects. Mr. R u j i m a n from Gajah Mada University, Yogyakarta, is revising Vallaris under his supervision.

Araceae. Dr. M. H o t t a, Kyoto, described a new monotypic genus, Furtadoa, from Sumatra.

Drs. D. H. N i c o l s o n, Washington, and M. S i v a d a s a n, India, discriminated four common species of Typhonium.

At BO, Mr. Gregori G. H a m b a l i is studying hybridization between Colocasia and Xanthosoma.

At L, Mr. T. J. J. d e B o o has embarked on a revision of Pothos. On advice of Dr. D. H. Nicolson (US) who visited Leiden, subgenus Eupothos is to be done first.

Begoniaceae. At K, Mr. Martin S a n d s is well-advanced in his dealings with the species of Borneo, 80 names, with little overlap.

Bryophytes. Dr. M. M a n u e l (now deceased) in April 1981 joined Dr. N. Miller at A; together they finished a monograph of the Australasian-Pacific moss genus Trachyloma (Pterobryaceae).

A generic Moss Flora of Peninsular Malaysia and Singapore has been published; see under Obituaries: Manuel.

Chrysobalanaceae. Dr. G. T. P r a n c e, New York Botanical Garden, has the intention to revise this family, often relegated to Rosaceae, for Flora Malesiana, after he has finished his account of Lecythidaceae for Flora Neotropica. He will start in 1983.

Compositae. Robert O. B e l c h e r, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, Mich. 48197, U.S.A. published a paper on Senecio from New Guinea, in Blumea.

F. G. D a v i e s, Kew, revised the genus Gynura for Malesia and Australia.

Cunoniaceae. At the Rijksherbarium, Dr. R. D. H o o g l a n d is making good progress with a Flora Malesiana revision. Weinmannia is largely finished — he is also looking into the delimitation against Cunonia and the subdivision of the genus — to be followed by Schizomeria.

Elaeocarpaceae. Mr. R. W e i b e l (G), visited by Dr. M. Jacobs early in 1982, completed an index to all names in Elaeocarpus with their proper disposition, and continued work on details of the subdivision of the genus. Much of his unrivalled knowledge has been committed to paper;

editing has begun and gaps are still to be filled.

At Kew, Mr. M. J. E. C o o d e has Sloanea now well in hand. At L, Dr. M. M. J. v a n B a l g o o y published a revision of Sericolea in Blumea: 16 sp.

Euphorbiaceae. Mr. H. K. A i r y S h a w, Kew, published a valuable account of the species of Sumatra.

Ferns. Dr. R. E. H o l t t u m (K), in the course of an effort to correlate the African and American Cyatheaceae with the Malesian ones, discovered that a group of species allied to Cyathea decurrens, ranging from the Admiralty Is. to Tahiti, is distinct from all palaeotropic ones and seems closer to the neotropic C. petiolata; see the Kew Bulletin. He embarked on a monographic study of Tectaria and allied genera; the Malesian ones to be published in the Gardens' Bulletin.

A monograph of the genus Platyserium by M. C. R o o s and E. H e n n i p m a n, Utrecht, is in the press. The first will continue with a thesis on drynarioid Polypodiaceae while the latter pursues work on other Polypodiaceae.

Mr. R. J o h n s at LAE is progressing well with his Fern Flora of New Guinea. He visited European herbaria to work on Asplenium, which he is covering for most of the Malesian region.

Ms. Barbara S. P a r r i s Croxall (who hitherto at CGE had held an honorary position) took up a job as pteridologist at the Kew Herbarium, on 4 January 1982, to succeed Mr. Jeffrey Grimes. Her Ph.D. thesis on Grammitis in New Guinea (64 sp., 21 new) has been accepted at Cambridge University. After the Botanical Congress in August 1981 she spent four weeks in East New Guinea collecting ferns in the W. and S. Highlands and Morobe, c. 400 numbers, with duplicates in LAE. At Kew, she will continue monographic work on Grammitidaceae.

At L, Mr. P. H. H o v e n k a m p, on a 3-year fellowship towards a Ph.D., took up Pyrrrosia for a monographic study. Ms. G. A. v a n U f f e l e n investigated the spores with sophisticated equipment.

In Zürich, Professor K. U. K r a m e r is working on a revision of Pteris.

Dr. K. I w a t s u k i (TI) continues his work on Hymenophyllaceae, with papers in the press on Macroglena and Spaerociconium. He and M. K a t o published a list of the pteridophytes they collected in Borneo, in Acta Phytotax. Geobot. 31 (1980) 24-43, 164-181, 32 (1981) 121-132.

At BO, Mr. Dedy D a r n a e d y completed work on Antrophyum, and is now engaged on Vittaria.

Flacourtiaceae. Dr. J. F. V e l d k a m p and colleagues at L discovered that the Australian Streptothamnus beckleri belongs to the (hitherto thought monotypic) South American genus Berberidopsis.

Fungi. At BO, Dr. Mien A. R i f a i continues work on Trichoglossum.

Gentianaceae. At S, Mr. Jens K l a c k e n b e r g is finishing Exacum for Ceylon (not the Flora).

Gesneriaceae. At W, Dr. Anton W e b e r, who regularly publishes on the family, is continuing morphological work on Monophyllaea, and on seed coat structure in Didymocarpus.

Gramineae. Dr. J. F. V e l d k a m p (L) completed a revision of Poa for Malesia, which involved examination of the Formosa species. The total now recognized is 6 species, 8 varieties.

Mr. M. L a z a r i d e s, CANB, revised the genus Leptochloa for Australia and New Guinea.

Ms. Elizabeth A. W i d j a j a, LBN, Bogor, is engaged with a revision of the genus Gigantochloa.

At K, Dr. Soejatmi S o e n a r k o Dransfield is working (voluntarily) on bamboos, particularly Dinochloa, Racemobambos, and Schizostachyum. Material is welcomed! From August to November she worked in N. Borneo to observe and collect bamboos (c. 80 numbers), aiming to produce a manual for Sabah.

Guttiferae. At A, Peter F. S t e v e n s took up the Kayea-Mesua complex, along with the smaller calophylloid genera Endodesmia, Lebrunia and Poeciloneuron. Mesua proves difficult as expected, and good collections with flowers and ripe fruits are needed. Please send them to Harvard University Herbaria, 22 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138, U.S.A. Postage will gladly be reimbursed.

Lecythidaceae. At BO, Dr. Kuswata K a r t a w i n a t a has revised Chydenanthus, and is now engaged on Combretodendron.

Leguminosae. At BO, Dr. Harry W i r i a d i n a t a is studying the biology of Adenanthera, and the taxonomy of Mucuna, in collaboration with Mr. R. Geesink at L.

Mrs. Harini M. R o e m a n t y o started a study of Peltophorum.

From BRI, extensive field work was undertaken on Tephrosia in N. Australia, by L. P e d l e y. The same author published a paper on Abarema and Pithecellobium in Austrobaileya, and is reviewing the classification of Acacia.

Ms. Helen C. H o p k i n s, based at OXF, temporarily at NY, is revising Parkia (Mimosaceae) for the world.

Melastomataceae continue to enjoy the interest of Dr. J. F. V e l d k a m p (L). He thus drafted a key to the genera for testing and improvement. One of his findings is that Astronidium is congeneric with Bammlera, Beccarianthus, and Everettia.

At the SING-Herbarium Mr. J. F. M a x w e l l revised the genus Pternandra (incl. Kibessia), wrote up the Dissochaetinae and has nearly completed a revision of the Oxysporeae, a group of some 13 genera in which considerable rehashing had to be done.

Dr. G. J. C. M. v a n V l i e t (L) made extensive studies on the comparative wood anatomy of the family.

Meliaceae. Dr. D. J. M a b b e r l e y and Ms. C. M. P a n n e l l spent a fortnight at Bogor in August 1981 for sorting out loans and

naming specimens, mainly of Dysoxylum and Aglaia respectively. Dr. Maberley intends to stay at the Rijksherbarium, Leiden, for a sabbatical year (1982-1983) and hopes to finish the account of the family for Flora Malesiana by the end of 1983 or early 1984.

Menispermaceae. Mr. L. L. Forman (K) made a revision of the genus Tinospora for the Old World, except Africa. He reduced the monotypic genus Batania, from the N. Philippines, to Pycnarrhena.

Monimiaceae. At Christchurch, New Zealand, Dr. W. R. Phillips on gave a synopsis of Matthaea: 5 sp., and a revision of Palmeria: 12 sp., both in Blumea. He will now start with work on the largest genera Kibara and Stegathera.

Myristicaceae. Dr. W. J. J. O. de Wilde (L) solved most problems in Horsfieldia; a few resist in Indo-China. Most west-Malesian species have a 3-valved perianth, most east-Malesians a 2-valved.

Dr. W. A. van Heel (L) published on seed development in Horsfieldia and Knema, in Blumea.

Myrtaceae. Peter G. Wilson, Botany, University of NSW, Kensington, 2033 Australia, defined Kania against Metrosideros, in Blumea.

Opiliaceae. Dr. P. Hiepkow (B) has put on paper a first version for the Flora Malesiana.

Orchidaceae. Dr. E. F. de Vogel (L) is steadily working on the Pholidota group, which involves scrutiny of many unidentified samples. Mr. Jaap J. Vermeulen (no kin to orchidologist P. Vermeulen, recently deceased) continues to apply his artistic talents to the preparation of plates.

Student Ms. M. E. Minderhoud completed her revision of Acriopsis, now ready for publication.

Palmae. Dr. J. Dransfield (K) provided a synopsis of the genus Korthalsia. He and Mr. J. P. Moge (BO) reassessed the monotypic genus Lophospatha and reduced it to Salacca.

Pandanaceae. Dr. B. C. Stone (KLU) completed Pandanus subg. Rykia, revised Pandanus for Indo-China and in shorter form for Sumatra.

Pollination and unisexuality in Freycinetia (Pandanaceae) is the title of a thesis submitted by Paul Cox, advised by Dr. P.S. Ashton, of the Arnold Arboretum.

Polygalaceae. At BRI, L. Pedley is preparing a conspectus of Polygala for Australia, with new species from the North.

At L, Dr. R. van der Meijden, successfully having finished Xanthophyllum, will write up the rest of the family for Flora Malesiana.

Rafflesiaceae. Dr. W. Meijer, Lexington, U.S.A., performed extensive field work in Sumatra, Java, Malaya, Sabah and the Philippines hunting Rafflesiaceae and succeeded in observing almost all species and their hosts alive. He studied also the preserved materials in Malesian herbaria. Presumably he will now be able to frame a new Fl. Males. revision.

Rosaceae. Professor C. K a l k m a n (L) working steadily on Saturday mornings, is finishing Rubus subg. Malachobatus, to which belongs the R. moluccanus complex.

Rubiaceae. Krukoff Botanist Dr. C. E. R i d s d a l e (L) prepared mss. on Badusa and Spathichlamys for Blumea. After a long struggle, Neonauclea has almost been mastered. A joint paper on the alkaloids of the Naucleaeae, with Dr. J. D. P h i l l i p s o n, School of Pharmacy, London, is in the press. Similar work on the barks of Cinchona species is in progress.

Student M. E. J a n s e n (L) revised Dolicholobium with its extremely variable species.

Ms. Barbro A x e l i u s (S) is working on Malesian Lerchea and Xanthophytum.

Rutaceae. At BO, Mr. Tahan U d j i initiated a study on Micromelum.

Dr. B. C. S t o n e (KLU) revised the difficult genus Glycosmis, and studied other genera in the Aurantioideae.

At CANB, Dr. T. G. H a r t l e y continues his revisions in the family of the SW. Pacific. He has completed a revision of the originally New Caledonian genus Sarcomelicope, which he merged with Bauerella, a genus of a wider distribution and not previously regarded as closely related. He also revised the genus Tetradia which was hitherto relegated to the synonymy of Euodia.

Sapindaceae. A monograph of Harpullia was published in Blumea by P. W. L e e n h o u t s & M. V e n t e (L): 26 sp., with several novelties and some taxa excluded. Dr. J. M u l l e r will follow with a paper on the pollen. Leenhouts intends to elaborate the subdivision of the genus. He also was engaged in a study of extra-Australian Dodonaea.

Sapotaceae. Dr. T. D. P e n n i n g t o n (K) has undertaken a worldwide revision of this family to determine the generic limits. Late in 1981, he travelled to Kepong, Singapore, Kuching, and New Caledonia.

Stemonaceae. A long-standing puzzle was the position of Cryptocoryne egregia, a Korthals plant from Central Sumatra, which De Wit rejected from the Araceae. New material collected by W. Meijer was assigned to Stemonaceae by Mr. J. B o g n e r, aroidologist at Munich. Findings of a second species by De Wilde in the G. Leuser reserves, confirmed this, but the exceptional fact remained that this was a monocot with 5-merous (tubular) flowers. V a n S t e e n i s devoted a paper in Blumea to this botanical sensation, meticulously analysed, comparing this new genus Pentastemona (2 sp.) with Stichoneuron (of which the fruit is described for the first time), Croomia and Stemona.

Sterculiaceae. At BRI, G. P. G u y m e r has revised Brachychiton, for Brunonia. Work commenced on Commersonia and Argyrodendron.

Theaceae. Dr. Hsuan K e n g, Singapore, revised the genus Pyrenaria for Malesia.

Urticaceae. Mr. Ib Friis (C) revised the genus Girardinia, concluding that there is only one species in Malesia.

Viscaceae. Dr. B. A. Barlow (CANB) is working on a revision of the genus Notothixos and contemplates a revision of the family for Flora Malesiana.

Winteraceae. Dr. W. Vink (L) completed work on the Australian species of Bubbia, to continue on the ones of New Caledonia, whence newly collected material upset assumptions.

Zingiberaceae. Ms. R. M. Smith produced a 28 (half)page 'Synoptic Keys to the Genera of Zingiberaceae pro parte' (1981). Wanting are the Alpinia's with inflorescence otherwise than on a separate scape; these take more time to unravel. A nice introduction with drawings shows how to look at gingers. On request from the Herbarium, Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh EH3 5LR, U.K.

She worked out notes on the species in Mulu National Park, Sarawak, for Bot. J. Linn. Soc., and hopes to finish her revision of the Australian Zingiberaceae.

Algae. M. Ratnasabapathy (KLU) is continuing his studies on Malaysian freshwater algae and amongst his recent collections from Johore (Kota Tinggi) and Selangor are various species of Compsopogon, Batrachospermum, Sirodotia, Tuomeya, Nemalionopsis and Caloglossa. The genus Nemalionopsis found on 3 June 1981 in a tributary of the Gombak R. is a new record for Malaysia. He is collaborating with Drs. Shigeru Kumano, Ryoze Seto and Hiroyuki Hirose of Kobe on the Malaysian freshwater Rhodophyceae.

In August 1981, during the Botany Year Four field trip to Pulau Pangkor, Mr. Ratnasabapathy collected species of marine algae, and angiosperms including Halophila and Halodule.